1 2 3 4 5 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 6 WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON AT SEATTLE 7 WASHINGTON STATE EMPLOYEES CASE NO. 23-cv-987 8 CREDIT UNION, ORDER DENYING APPOINTMENT OF 9 Plaintiff, SUBSTITUTE CUSTODIAN AND DENYING WAIVER OF SERVICE 10 v. 11 NAUTI BOY, Official Number 1051909, its Engines, Machinery, Appurtenances, etc., In 12 Rem. 13 UNKNOWN HEIRS AND BENEFICIARIES OF JOE VELASQUEZ, ANGELA 14 VELASQUEZ, AMANDA BECKER, and UNKNOW HEIRS AND BENEFICIARIES 15 OF JOSEPH VELASQUEZ, III, In Personam, 16 Defendants. 17 18 This matter came before the Court on Plaintiff's Motion For Order Appointing Substitute 19 Custodian, For Permission to Move The Vessel, And For Boarding And Inspection (the "Motion"). 20 Dkt. No. 5. The Local Admiralty Rules state that Plaintiff "shall" give notice to the marshal of a 21 motion to appoint a substitute custodian and that Plaintiff's proposed order granting the motion 22 "must be reviewed by the marshal prior to presentation to a judicial officer." LAR 135(b) 23 (emphasis added). Plaintiff's motion is silent about whether these requirements have been met. See 24

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Dkt. As such, Plaintiff's request is DENIED without prejudice. Plaintiff may refile its Motion in accordance with LAR 135.

Plaintiff also requests "that the requirement that Plaintiff serve the order appointing substitute custodian on the Vessel's owner or owner's agent be waived," without providing authority or argument in support beyond pointing out that Velazquez is deceased. Dkt. No. 5 at 2. This appears to be a different request than Plaintiff's request for service of process by publication. *See* Dkt. No. 6. Plaintiff's request is DENIED. The Court requests authority and clarification about the service requirements under these circumstances in any refiled motion.

It is so ORDERED.

Dated this 18th day of July, 2023.

Jamal N. Whitehead United States District Judge

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